

## Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2014

Members in Attendance: Molly Flueckiger, Heidi Hample, Rachel Buonopane,  
John Thompson, Kerrie Fallon, Susan James, Michael Rademacher

Members Absent: Maureen St. Hilaire

Others Present: Jack Jones/ADA Coordinator, Danny van Leuwen (resident),  
Beverly Bevilacqua (resident, volunteer at Arlington Senior  
Center)

Meeting began at 4:05 pm

### 1. Welcome and Introduction

### 2. Public Comments

- No public comments today

### 3. Administration

- Burt Pusch has resigned as he is moving to Boston
  - a. **Approve Meeting Minutes**
- Discussion of amending minutes to add in specifics of ADA coordinators report with a few corrections as well, to be resubmitted
  - b. **Review July Action Steps**
- Director of Health and Human Services requested that we not move forward with internal strategy, but rather work towards moving forward with outside consultant
- Planning for better planned spending, possibly inducting a treasurer to keep group on track with spending budget in a timely manner
- Heidi to further present today regarding Town Day Planning
  - c. **Strategic Planning Update**
- Director of Health and Human Services working on interviewing two outside consultants regarding potential assistance with working on strategic planning for Commission on Disability role in Town and how we can work more effectively. Another consultant may also be considered.
- Working on obtaining funds for this project
- **Vision 20/20 group** that meets to obtain information from residents regarding various issues in town. Commission has been asked if we would like to submit any questions this year.
- **Subcommittee-** Rachel, Molly, Susan. *Will work this month to develop questions to submit on behalf of Commission on Disability. Will present at next meeting.*

#### **4. Project Updates**

- **2014 Town Day/ Arlington Access**
- Heidi, Molly, Susan and Kerrie met again as a subcommittee
- Discussion of celebrities/famous people that have disabilities...to open discussion with town members
- Bean bag toss (developing challenge) and have people toss the bags. Bean bags were purchased. (*Rachel will bring theraband to help with restriction of arm use*)
- Carnival theme- Heidi presented model of our table for town day
- Poster board with info and games to be played
- John and his service dog will be present and community member service dogs invited to join in the fun (*John will bring a poster to state times for presentations*)
- Looking to make to table more inviting
- Info at booth regarding true story theatre performances
- Arlington Access- will use Swifty. Deadline for submission will be **August 27<sup>th</sup>**.
- *Articles- Heidi disability etiquette, John letter to town business with info regarding becoming accessible, Rachel Accessible Icon Project, Susan will do a version of famous people and disability match and possibly something on mental health, Mike-sidewalk survey being done and potentially on laser cut bricks, Maureen resources for people with disabilities, Jack home rehabilitation loan program (ramps and bathroom retrofits), Kerrie multiple ideas regarding public venues that are accessible, Molly snow removal and accessible voting equipment/locations / advertisement of assisted listening devices, Acknowledgement of Janice Dallas' service on the Commission*
- **Send articles in to Jack and Heidi by August 27<sup>th</sup>**
- **Pierce School**
- Molly and John working on following up and getting feedback on if suggestions have moved forward
- **Outdoor Seating**
- John has a letter with suggestions regarding outdoor seating requirements
- Asked for a list of businesses with outdoor seating
- Commission had submitted letter in May regarding our recommendations for organization of outdoor seating and clear path requirements
- Talk of getting on agenda of Selectmen's meeting regarding this topic
- *John to call selectmen's office to ask about proposing guidelines that can be issued to businesses regarding outdoor seating*

#### **5. ADA Coordinator's Monthly Report**

- Library director called to ask for feedback regarding use of a bicycle in the library. Resident in town requesting to use bicycle within the library facility. Jack did follow up with Massachusetts office on Disability(MOD). MOD provided information to Jack, and suggesting request of letter of medical necessity from Medical Doctor. Commission and Library will follow up regarding need for use of this device.

- Could we as a Commission be available to aide the resident in getting potential services that she may need regarding her equipment needs? Or could Laurie August (Social Worker) get in contact with her to assist?
- *Will further discuss regarding follow up to this issue*

#### **6. New Business & Announcements**

- **True Story Theatre performance-** October 17<sup>th</sup> at Arlington Center (Yoga)
- Present fall schedule at Town Day
- **Arlington Day at Museum of Science-**50-80 people can get in for free
- could we organize going as a group, or coordinating for someone to greet members
- discussion of how to market event, through special needs parent group in town, other groups
- Looking to plan for date in December
- **Heidi will be running the next two meetings in Molly's absence**
- Gregg Ames scheduled to come to next meeting
- Will communicate to vision 20/20 committee regarding Job Fair and invite them to be involved and to come to next month's meeting as well
- **Discussion regarding complaints from Cusack Terrace regarding crosswalk across Summer St. Request for crosswalk at Summer and Brookdale.**
- Crosswalk at Summer and Mystic will be improved. Difficulties expanding sidewalk along football field (Arlington Catholic) due to size restrictions between road and fence.
- A TAC study had been performed in 2009 regarding this issue, parking on Summer St. in this area has changed since that study, # of people crossing the street has greatly increased
- Do we as Commission suggest that TAC perform another study? Is this a safe location for a crosswalk?

#### ***Handouts Issued to Commission Members during Meeting***

*Meeting Agenda*

*Meeting Minutes July*

*ADA coordinators report*

*Memo from Town Hall regarding confirmation for Job Fair in October*

*Proposal from Consensus Building Institute to facilitate our group*

*Arlington Vision 20/20 survey from 2005 with feedback for informational purposes*

*Disabilities Issues (quarterly newsletter)*

**Meeting adjourned 6:10pm**

**Next Meeting set September 17, 2014**